

AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel claims 2 and 5 without prejudice or disclaimer and amend claims as follows:

1. (Currently Amended) An image recording method, comprising:
 - an information loading step of loading identification information on a subject and subject information used by a photographer to confirm an identity of the subject, in a digital camera before photographing the subject;
 - a display step of displaying, on the basis of the subject information, subject information used by the photographer to confirm the identity of the subject on a display device of the digital camera before photographing the subject;
 - a photographing step of photographing the subject using the digital camera after confirming the identity of the subject on the basis of the subject information displayed on the display device; and
 - a recording step of recording the photographed image of the subject in connection with the identification information loaded in the information loading step; and

wherein the image recorded in connection with the identification information is saved to a database; and

wherein the information loading step comprises:

a step of reading the subject identification information from a recording medium having the identification information recorded thereon;

a step of reading the subject information corresponding to the read identification information, from a database having the subject information already stored in connection with the subject identification information; and

a transmitting step of transmitting the subject information read from the database, to the digital camera together with the identification information read from the recording medium.

2. (Canceled)
3. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 1, ~~claim 2~~, wherein the subject information comprises at least one of the subject's photograph and name.
4. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 1, ~~claim 2~~, wherein the recording step records the identification information loaded in the information loading step, in a header part of an image file in which the photographed subject image is recorded.
5. (Canceled)
6. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 1, ~~claim 5~~, wherein while the subject identification information and the subject information are being transmitted to the digital camera, the digital camera is inhibited from being used for photographing.

7. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 1, ~~claim 5~~, wherein the subject information comprises at least one of the subject's photograph and name.
8. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 1, ~~claim 5~~, wherein the recording step records the identification information loaded in the information loading step, in a header part of an image file in which the photographed subject image is recorded.
9. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 1, ~~claim 5~~, wherein:
 - the step of reading the identification information reads plural pieces of identification information so that these pieces can be accumulated; and
 - the transmitting step transmits the identification information and the subject information in response to an information obtainment request from the digital camera.
10. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 9, wherein while the subject identification information and the subject information are being transmitted to the digital camera, the digital camera is inhibited from being used for photographing.
11. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 1, wherein:

the information loading step loads recorded image information containing at least one of image format, the number of pixels, compression rate, file size, and image aspect ratio; and

the digital camera records the photographed image on the basis of the loaded recorded image information.

12. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 1, wherein the subject information comprises at least one of the subject's photograph and name.

13. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 1, wherein the recording step records the identification information loaded in the information loading step, in a header part of an image file in which the photographed subject image is recorded.

14. (Currently Amended) An image transmitting method, comprising:

an input step of inputting destination information from ~~an external device~~ an external device into which a plurality of pieces of destination information are registered and which transmits designated destination information as required to a digital camera, the information being indicative of a destination of an image, wherein said input step inputs destination information to the digital camera using radio communication before photographing a subject to be photographed;

a photographing step of photographing the subject using the digital camera;

a recording step of recording the photographed image of the subject in connection with the destination information input in the input step; and

a transmitting step of transmitting the photographed subject image to the destination corresponding to the destination information, on the basis of the destination information recorded in connection with the image.

15. (Currently Amended) An image recording apparatus, comprising:

an input device which reads identification information on a subject from a recording medium having the information recorded thereon;

an information transmitting device which reads subject information corresponding to the read identification information, from a database having the subject information already stored in connection with the subject identification information and transmits the subject information read from the database, together with the identification information read from the recording medium, wherein said subject information comprises ~~information that can be used to confirm an identity of said subject to be photographed;~~ information of at least one of a photograph of the subject and a name of the subject;

a receiving device which receives the identification information and the subject information;

a display device which displays the subject information on the basis of the received subject information before photographing the subject;

a photographing device which photographs the subject; and

a recording device which records the photographed subject image in connection with the received identification information.

16. (Previously Presented) The image recording apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the recording medium comprises one of a card, a magnetic card, and an IC card including a bar code recorded thereon, and the input device comprises a card reader.

17. (Previously Presented) The image recording apparatus according to claim 15, further comprising a communication device which transmits the image recorded in connection with the identification information, to the database.

18. (Previously Presented) The image recording apparatus according to claim 15, wherein the recording device records the identification information in a header part of an image file in which the photographed subject image is recorded.

19. (Currently Amended) An image recording apparatus, comprising:
an input device which reads subject identification information and subject information from a recording medium having the identification information and the subject information recorded thereon, wherein said subject information comprises ~~information that can be used to confirm an identity of said subject to be photographed;~~ information of at least one of a photograph of the subject and a name of the subject;

a display device which displays the subject information on the basis of the read subject information before photographing the subject;

a photographing device which photographs the subject; and

a recording device which records the photographed image of the subject in connection with the read identification information.

20. (Previously Presented) The image recording apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the recording medium comprises one of a card, a magnetic card, and an IC card including a bar code recorded thereon, and the input device comprises a card reader.

21. (Previously Presented) The image recording apparatus according to claim 19, further comprising a communication device which transmits the image recorded in connection with the identification information, to the database.

22. (Previously Presented) The image recording apparatus according to claim 19, wherein the recording device records the identification information in a header part of an image file in which the photographed subject image is recorded.

23. (Currently Amended) An image recording method, comprising:

inputting ~~the added-to image~~ GPS information added to an image of a subject to be photographed and ~~display information~~ place name information associated with the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information to a digital camera from an external device using radio communication before photographing the subject to be photographed;

displaying the ~~display information~~ place name information on a display device of the digital camera on the basis of the ~~display~~ place name information input from the external device before photographing the subject to be photographed; and

after photographing the subject, recording an image of the subject and the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information input from the external device in connection with the image.

24. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 23, wherein the ~~display~~ place name information is used by a photographer to check at least one of contents and correctness of the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information added to the subject image.

25. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 24, wherein the ~~display~~ place name information comprises one of test information and image information which can be displayed on the display device.

26. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 24, wherein the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information comprises binary information, and the ~~display~~ place name information comprises text information corresponding to the binary information.

27. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 24, wherein the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information is recorded in a header part of an image file in which an image of the subject is recorded.

28. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 23, wherein the ~~display~~ place name information comprises at least one of test information and image information which can be displayed on the display device.

29. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 23, wherein the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information comprises binary information, and the ~~display~~ place name information comprises text information corresponding to the binary information.

30. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 23, wherein the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information is recorded in a header part of an image file in which an image of the subject is recorded.

31. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 23, wherein the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information comprises at least one of numerical locational information on the subject and identification information already imparted to the subject.

32. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 31, wherein the ~~display~~ place name information is used by a photographer to check at least one of contents and correctness of the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information added to the subject image.

33. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 32, wherein the ~~display~~ place name information comprises one of text information and image information which can be displayed on the display device.

34. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 32, wherein the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information comprises binary information, and the ~~display~~ place name information comprises text information corresponding to the binary information.

35. (Currently Amended) The image recording method according to claim 32, wherein the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information is recorded in a header part of an image file in which an image of the subject is recorded.

36. (Currently Amended) An image recording system, comprising:

an external device which outputs, using radio communication, the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information added to an image of a subject to be photographed ~~display information~~ place name information associated with the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information; and

a digital camera comprising:

a display device which displays the ~~display information~~ place name information on the basis of the ~~display information~~ place name information input from the external device using radio communication before photographing the subject to be photographed; and

a recording device which records an image of the subject after the subject has been photographed and records the ~~added-to-image~~ GPS information input from the external device, in connection with the image.

37. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 1, wherein said identification information comprises information that can be used to confirm an identity of said subject to be photographed.

38. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 1, further comprising:

confirming an identity of said subject to be photographed using the subject information.

39. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 1, wherein said information loading step comprises at least one of loading said identification information in the digital camera using radio communication and loading said identification information from a recording medium.

40. (Previously Presented) The image recording method according to claim 1, wherein said information loading step automatically loads the identification information on the subject and the subject information used by the photographer to confirm the subject, in the digital camera before photographing the subject.

41. (Currently Amended) An image transmitting method, comprising:

inputting identification information on a subject and subject information, and destination information from ~~an external device~~ an external device into which a plurality of pieces of destination information are registered and which transmits designated destination information as required to a digital camera, before photographing the subject,

wherein the subject information includes information used by a photographer to confirm the identity of the subject, before photographing the subject, and

wherein the destination information includes information indicative of a destination of an image;

displaying, on the basis of the subject information, subject information for confirming the identity of the subject on a display device of the digital camera, before photographing the subject;

photographing the subject using the digital camera after confirming the identity of the subject on the basis of the subject information displayed on the display device;

recording the photographed image of the subject in connection with the identification information and the destination information input; and

transmitting the photographed subject image to the destination corresponding to the destination information, on the basis of the destination information recorded in connection with the image.